



172812

108 KNIGHTS HILL CT.
IRMO, S.C. 29093

FEBRUARY 18, 2005

PUBLIC SERVICE COMM. of S.C.
DOCKETING DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE DRAWER 11649

GENTLEMEN:

RECENTLY I RECEIVED THE "NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING"
OF DOCKET NO. 2004-357-WS, BY THE CAROLINA WATER SERVICE
INC. FOR INCREASES IN THEIR RATES TO CUSTOMERS WITHIN
THEIR TERRITORY.

MY WIFE AND I ARE BOTH SENIOR CITIZENS ON A VERY FIXED
INCOME AND FEEL THAT A 35.3% INCREASE IN THE COST TO
FLUSH OUR TOILETS IS VERY EXCESSIVE. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
AT THE BEGINNING OF 2005 INCREASED OUR SOCIAL SECURITY
BENEFITS FOR THE COST OF LIVING BY 2.7% OR \$22.00 PER MONTH
TO LIVE ON. WE OBJECT STRONGLY TO GIVING UP HALF OF THIS TO
A UTILITY COMPANY THAT DOES NOTHING MORE THAN PROVIDE
SEWER SERVICE.

CURRENTLY WE ARE PAYING THEM \$30.33 EACH MONTH FOR THE
SAME SERVICE THAT RICHLAND COUNTY PROVIDES FOR \$25.00. WE
ARE A TWO (2) PERSON HOUSEHOLD AND FEEL WE SHOULD BE
BILLED ON A RATE COMPARIABLE TO THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF
WATER USED.

MANY MUNICIPALITIES IN OUR COUNTRY DO THIS EXACT THING
AND THE OWNERS RECEIVE ONLY ONE BILL FOR BOTH WATER
AND SEWER

THE PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER IS TO STRONGLY URGE THE
COMMISSION TO DENY THE APPLICATION FILED BY CAROLINA
WATER SERVICE INC. FOR AN ADJUSTMENT RATE INCREASE
REQUEST.

RESPECTFULLY

Vaughn A. Gooch
Suzanne C. Gooch
VAUGHN & SUZANNE GOOCH

SC PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
2005 FEB 22 AM 8:12

RECEIVED